

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL
OF
CHEADLE AND GATLEY



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1946

TOWN HALL,
BRUNTWOOD,
CHEADLE,
14th November, 1947.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE URBAN
DISTRICT COUNCIL OF CHEADLE AND GATLEY

MADAM CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1946.

The statistics for the year show no outstanding features except the low incidence of infectious disease, which is the lowest since 1939 when there were 85 notifications ; in that year, however, measles and whooping cough were not notifiable until October, so that the comparative figures are really 42 cases in 1946 against 85 cases in 1939.

The infantile mortality is the same as last year, 26 per 1,000 births, the lowest recorded for this district.

“ Brookfield ” is still “ temporarily ” occupied as a Remand Home by the Manchester Education Authority and so the urgent need for a Maternity Home in the district remains unaltered.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank the Clerk to the Council and Colleagues in other Departments for their co-operation and help and to thank the Members of the Public Health Department for their loyal co-operation. My thanks are also due to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their help and understanding.

I am, Madam Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

DAVID G. ANDERSON,

Medical Officer of Health

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1946

Staff :

Medical Officer of Health :

D. G. ANDERSON, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

Senior Sanitary Inspector :

T. HAYES, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I.*

Additional Sanitary Inspector :

A. BLACKHURST, C.R.S.I.

(Returned from H.M. Forces, February, 1946)

E. A. DOOLEY, C.R.S.I.*

(Temporary, left February, 1946)

Clerical :

Medical Officer of Health's Office :

Miss N. King,

(Returned from H.M. Forces, August 1946
resigned November, 1946)

Miss E. M. Wood,

(Temporary to August, 1946)

Mrs. E. D. Somerville,

(From November, 1946)

Sanitary Inspector's Office :

Miss E. M. Wood

(From August, 1946)

*Holds the certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute as Inspector of Meat and other foods.

SECTION A : STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres) : 5,303.

Registrar General's Estimate of resident population mid 1946 : 29,880.

Number of inhabited houses (end of 1946) according to Rate Books : 9,740.

Rateable value (December 31st, 1946) : £244,987.

Sum represented by a penny rate £988.

Social Conditions : The district is mainly residential in character with a few factories in the North East corner.

Extracts from Vital Statistics of the year (after correction for inward and outward transfers as furnished by the Registrar General).

				Total	Males	Females
Live Births	...	...	...	532	274	258
Legitimate	...	...	...	508	262	246
Illegitimate	...	...	...	24	12	12

Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population : 17.8.
Illegitimate births per 1,000 live births : 45.

				Total	Males	Females
Still Births	...	...	...	14	10	4
Legitimate	...	...	...	14	10	4
Illegitimate	...	...	...	—	—	—

Rate per 1,000 total live and still births : 25.6.

Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population : 0.47.

				Total	Males	Females
Deaths (all causes)	...	...	...	317	147	170

Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population : 10.6.

Deaths from Puerperal Causes (Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar General's Short List).

Death Rate per 1,000 total (live and still births).

					Deaths	Rate
No. 29.	Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	—	—
No. 30.	Other Puerperal causes	...	...	...	1	1.83
	Total	...	...	...	1	1.83

			Total	Males	Females
Deaths of Infants under one					
year of age...	...	...	14	6	8
Legitimate	...	...	14	6	8
Illegitimate	...	...	—	—	—

Death rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births : 26.

Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births : 28.

Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births :—

Comparison with England and Wales :—

		Birth Rate	Death Rate	Maternal Mortality	Infant Mortality
Cheadle and Gatley					
Urban District	...	17.8	10.6	1.8	26
England and Wales	...	19.1	11.5	1.5	43

Deaths from certain Special Causes.

Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	...	...	3
Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	...	...	—
Whooping Cough (all ages)			...	...	...	—
Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	...	...	2
Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	6
Pneumonia (all ages)	...	...	...	...	...	15
Tuberculosis—Pulmonary (all ages)			...	...	...	3

There have not been any cases of sickness or invalidity which have been specially noteworthy in the area. There is no evidence of any conditions of occupation or environment which appear to have had a prejudicial effect on health.

SECTION B : GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA :

(a) Staff.

The list of staff is given at the beginning of the report.

Duties.

The Medical Officer of Health is restricted from private practice and is Medical Officer of Health for the Urban Districts of Alderley Edge, Cheadle and Gatley, and Wilmslow. He is also Medical Adviser to the North Cheshire Joint Hospital Board. By arrangement with the County Council, he is Clinical Medical Officer to certain of the County Council Child Welfare Centres.

Both the Sanitary Inspectors are full time officers. From October, 1946 the additional Sanitary Inspector has been seconded to the Cleansing Department and is responsible for the collection and disposal of house refuse and salvage.

The Senior Sanitary Inspector is also Rodent Officer, by arrangement with the Cheshire County Council and Inspector under the Petroleum Acts and Hackney Carriage Inspector.

Until August, the clerical duties for the Sanitary Inspectors were undertaken when possible by the Medical Officer's clerk. This entailed a reduction in the work that should have been carried out in the Medical Officer's Department and when the permanent clerk returned from war service, the temporary clerk was continued in the Sanitary Inspectors' Department. Under the revision of Council establishment, this post was made permanent.

(b) Laboratory Facilities :

Examinations of pathological specimens necessary for the detection or control of infectious diseases are undertaken at the University of Manchester Public Health Laboratory (now one of the new Regional Public Health Laboratories), at the Stockport Infirmary Pathological Department and some at Stepping Hill Hospital, Hazel Grove, near Stockport, Pathological Laboratory. The exceptions are :—

- (a) Virulence Tests. These are carried out at Manchester.
- (b) Sputum Tests. These are carried out at the Cheshire County Council Laboratories, Chester.
- (c) Wasserman Tests. These are carried out under County Council arrangements at Manchester.

The costs of all examinations for the diphtheria bacillus and of other examinations where an investigation is required for the detection or control of infectious disease, are met by the Council.

(c) Ambulance Facilities :

The present service is as in the Annual Report for the year, 1945.

(d) Nursing in the Home :

This is unaltered.

(e) Treatment Centres and Clinics :

A new Welfare Centre has been opened at the Methodist Schoolrooms, Brown Lane, Heald Green, on the first and third Thursdays in the month.

(f) Hospitals, Public and Voluntary :

No change.

SECTION C :

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

(a) Water Supply :

The water is supplied by the Stockport Corporation—Water Department—and the supply has been satisfactory both in quality and quantity. No bacteriological examination has been made by this Authority during the year, but weekly samples are taken by the Water Department of the filtered and treated water for examination and of the raw water monthly, for chemical and bacteriological examination.

I am indebted to Mr. Dearden, the Engineer of the Water Department, Stockport, for the following information :—

“ The supply to Cheadle and Gatley is from the Goyt Valley source which is near Buxton and is from upland sources. The boreholes at Wilmslow have not been used for some time, but are kept as a standby supply. The service reservoir for the Goyt supply is at High Lane, Marple.

“ The analyses are taken as the water is put into supply from the Works and there has been no individual sampling from the main.

“ There is no liability to plumbo-solvent action, the total hardness being 4.9.”

There are only two houses supplied by stand-pipes and a few wells are still in use.

(b) Drainage and Sewerage :

No major extension of sewerage, but surface drainage works have been completed in the Station Road—Ladybridge Road area and the whole question of draining and sewerage of the district is being investigated by a sub-committee.

(c) Public Cleansing :

During the year the Cleansing and Salvage Officer became ill and the additional Sanitary Inspector undertook his duties. He has since been appointed Cleansing and Salvage Officer. I am indebted to him for the following report :

“ Refuse collection :

“ On the instructions of the Cleansing Committee re-organisation to carry out a weekly collection of refuse throughout the district was effected early in November. With the additional labour required and hired transport when necessary every endeavour has been made to service weekly the dwelling houses, shops, business premises and R.A.F. Camps from that date.

“ At the same time as refuse collection, the collection of separated salvage with the exception of kitchen waste is effected, a trailer being towed by the refuse collection vehicle for this purpose.

“ Refuse disposal :

“ Controlled tipping on the Council-owned land at Gatley Carrs has been carried out.

“ The disposal of salvage is undertaken at the Councillor Lane Salvage Depot. It is desired to process the salvage collected on a day to day basis, ready for disposal.”

(d) **Sanitary Inspection of the area :**

Herewith is the Statistical Record for the year 1946, supplied by the Senior Sanitary Inspector, Mr. T. Hayes.

STATISTICAL RECORD FOR THE YEAR 1946 :

<i>Nature of Inspection</i>				<i>No. of</i>	<i>No. of</i>	<i>Notices (Informal)</i>	
				<i>Visits</i>	<i>Defects</i>	<i>Served</i>	<i>Complied with</i>
Dwelling Houses	...	...	...	1398	259	143	143
Verminous Premises	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Rats Investigations	...	...	...	323	—	—	—
Factories	...	...	...	56	2	2	2
Workplaces	...	...	...	39	—	—	—
Farms	...	...	...	38	—	—	—
Dairies	...	...	...	116	—	—	—
Schools	...	...	...	25	—	—	—
Shops	...	...	...	96	—	—	—
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	153	—	—	—
Caravans	...	...	...	3	—	—	—
Drainage	...	...	...	135	98	98	98
Miscellaneous...	...	...	...	251	—	—	—
Total Visits				2633	359	243	243

In addition to the above 2,345 visits or re-visits were made in connection with the issue of 1,690 Licences under the Control of Civil Building Orders.

For a considerable portion of the year, the additional Sanitary Inspector was mainly engaged in Refuse Disposal. I think this fact needs noting otherwise a false idea would be given of the work done by the Sanitary Inspectors.

(e) **Disinfestation :**

There were no cases of bug infestation during the year.

SECTION D : HOUSING

(a) **Existing Houses :**

Inspections have been continued but only action under the Public Health Acts has been possible.

(b) **New Houses :**

The position at the end of 1946 was as follows :—

Council				Permanent	Temporary
Houses completed	...	...	...	Nil	Nil
Houses under construction			...	116	Nil
Houses approved but not yet commenced	...	...	...	250	44
Total				366	44
Private Enterprise :					
Houses completed	...	...	...	...	97
Houses under construction			...	...	52
Houses for which licences had been issued, but not yet commenced	...	...	...	...	Nil
Total				...	149

SECTION E :

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(a) **Milk Supply :**

This continued to give rise to some perturbation during the year and the following table shows the result of samples taken :—

RESULTS OF MILK EXAMINATIONS, 1946. TESTS.

Type of Milk	Total Samples Submitted	Satisfactory in all Tests to which Submitted	Bacterial Count			Presence of Bacillus Coli			Methylene Blue (Keeping Quality)			Phosphatase Sufficiently Heat Treated			Tubercle Bacilli		
			Total	Satisfactory	Not Satisfactory	Total	Satisfactory	Not Satisfactory	Total	Satisfactory	Not Satisfactory	Total	Satisfactory	Not Satisfactory	Total	Absent	Present
Pasteurised	48	31	13	9	4	34	22	12	38	20	18	37	33	4	3	3	0
Heat treated	9	2	2	2	0	5	2	3	7	3	4	6	2	4	—	—	—
Tuberculin tested	18	13	10	10	0	10	8	2	12	8	4	—	—	—	3	3	0
Accredited	4	1	2	2	0	2	0	2	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mixed Milk	3	0	3	1	2*	3	0	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Unclassified	1	0	—	—	—	1	0	1	1	1	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
All Milks	83	45	30	24	6	53	32	23	60	33	27	43	35	8	6	6	0

* Fairly satisfactory.

The results are an improvement on the previous year.

Designated Milks—Pasteurised :

A few of the samples from the plant licenced in the district gave unsatisfactory results. There had been a breakdown in the recording system for a short period and as with so many other things there was delay in re-equipment.

General Remarks :

Last year and on previous occasions I have given my opinion as to the desirability of the termination of the rationalisation scheme from the point of view of the improvement of the cleanliness of milk and I still feel strongly that this matter and the institution of a milkless day increase the wastage of milk in the homes.

(b) Meat and other foods :

No change from 1945.

(c) Adulteration :

The Authority for this is the County Council and I am indebted to the District Inspector, Mr. T. L. E. Gregory, for the following information :—

“ During the year ended 31st December, 1946, 38 samples of milk were taken and two reported against. Seventeen samples of other foods were taken and none reported against.

“ Details of samples reported against :—

“ Milk naturally deficient in non-fatty solids to the extent of 2 per cent.

“ Milk from the same source—19 per cent. deficient in fat also naturally deficient in non-fatty solids to the extent of 4.2 per cent.

“ Prosecuted—Fined £1 and 10/6 costs.”

SECTION F : PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

(a) General :

The following table gives the number of cases of each disease notified during the year. The number of original notifications is given and also the number after correction of the diagnosis by the attendant Medical Practitioner or in view of subsequent history in hospital.

Disease						Original	Corrected
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	20	20
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	2	1
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	3	3
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	15	15
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	2	1
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	34	34
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	40	40
Total	...	...	...	...	...	116	114

(b) Tuberculosis :

The following table gives the incidence of and mortality from this disease during the year :

			<i>Respiratory</i>			<i>Non-Respiratory</i>		
			<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
New cases (<i>i.e.</i> Primary notifications including Armed Forces discharged)								
...	...	...	5	2	7	4	—	4
Deaths	...	...	1	2	3	—	—	—

(c) Laboratory Examinations :

The following table shows the specimens dealt with at the various laboratories :—

					Positive	Negative
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	1	38
Haemolytic Streptococci	...	...	...	...	1	2
Blood Culture	...	...	...	...	—	1
Agglutination	...	...	...	...	—	6
Faeces	...	...	...	...	—	17
Urine	...	...	...	...	—	1
Sputum	...	...	...	...	6	54
Other examinations	...	...	...	...	—	5

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION CHEADLE & GATLEY U.D.

Age in years
on 31st Dec.
of the
correspond-
ing year

Persons inoculated each year
from 1936—1946

	Notes	(1)	(2)			(3)	(4)						
	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946		
0...		1	1	3	7	14	18	4	5	8	12		
1...		24	11	47	77	141	169	212	193	247	208	Total inoculated aged under five years on 31st December, 1946	
2...		38	16	55	41	151	115	50	49	70	79		
3...		39	12	40	34	140	74	27	9	11	16		
4...		32	16	38	28	138	74	19	6	5	8	1,140	
5...	1	43	19	50	14	120	63	21	7	8	8	Total inoculated aged 5—14 yrs. on 31st December, 1946	
6...		57	17	57	19	154	41	14	4	1	8		
7...		42	10	40	19	131	21	18	2	1	2		
8...		39	11	43	14	124	19	8	4	2	5	2,951	
9...		41	18	37	12	103	15	12	0	0	4		
10...		20	12	50	9	110	18	6	5	2	1		
11...		18	2	47	9	117	11	4	3	0	1		
12...		15	3	40	10	94	17	7	3	0	1		
13...		20	2	15	8	127	13	5	9	2	1		
14...		11	4	14	1	25	7	4	3	0	0		
15 and over		10	2	25	1	9	9	5	0	1	0	Total inoculated aged 15 years and over on 31st Dec., 1946 1232	
Total each year	1	450	156	601	303	1698	684	416	302	358	354	Grand Total 1936-46 5,323	

NOTES:—

(1) ▲ circular recommending immunisation was delivered at every house and prophylactic supplied to private practitioners.

(2) Free immunisation at special clinics (December, 1938) and Welfare Centres (May, 1939).

(3) Immunisation at schools.

(4) Visiting at houses following survey of food cards.

(In calculating the totals at the end of 1946 no account is taken of deaths which may have occurred since immunisation).

CLASSIFICATION OF DEATHS 1946

No	Causes of Death	M.	F.
1	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	...	1
2	Cerebro-Spinal Fever	1	...
3	Scarlet Fever	...	...
4	Whooping Cough	...	...
5	Diphtheria	...	...
6	Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System ...	1	2
7	Other Tuberculosis	...	...
8	Syphilitic Disease	...	1
9	Influenza	...	6
10	Measles	...	...
11	Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis ...	...	...
12	Acute Infectious Encephalitis	...	...
13	Cancer of buccal cavity and cesophagus (M) Cancer of uterus (F)	1	...
14	Cancer of stomach & duodenum	5	3
15	Cancer of breast	...	7
16	Cancer of all other sites	12	15
17	Diabetes	...	1
18	Intracranial vascular lesions	17	19
19	Heart Disease	53	56
20	Other Circulatory Diseases	3	6
21	Bronchitis	7	5
22	Pneumonia	10	5
23	Other Respiratory Diseases	1	1
24	Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	2	2
25	Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	2	...
26	Appendicitis	...	...
27	Other Digestive Diseases	7	6
28	Nephritis	5	3
29	Puerperal and post abortive Sepsis	...	...
30	Other maternal causes	...	1
31	Premature birth	...	2
32	Congenital malformation, Birth injury, Infantile Diseases	2	4
33	Suicide	...	5
34	Road Traffic Accidents	3	...
35	Other violent causes	6	2
36	All other Causes	9	18
All Causes		147	171

NOTE.—The numbers on the left refer to the Registrar General's Short List based on the Fifth (1938) Revision of the International List of Causes of Death.

